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defeated him in the combat at Palestro, with the loss of seven guns and 2,118 men, the allies losing but 601, having made a surprise of their crossing. On June 4 the battle of Magenta was fought, the Austrians making the attack a day too soon, believing the enemy less concentrated than was the fact. They were defeated with the loss of 10,726 killed, wounded, and missing. The loss of the allies was but 4,586. The forces engaged and casualty percentages were: Austrians, 61,618 men, 176 guns. Loss 17.4 per cent. Allies, 48,090 men, 87 guns. Loss 9.5 per cent. Some of the fighting over the villages was very severe. The village of Ponta Vecchio was taken and retaken six times. Had the Austrians postponed their attack a single day, their superiority of force would have been 45,000 men and 296 guns.

After this battle the Austrians withdrew behind the Mincio river and reorganized and increased their army by two corps. Count Gyulai was superseded, and Count Wimpffen and Count Schlick commanded the two armies now formed, the Emperor of Austria coming to the field and taking supreme command. The French also added a sixth corps to their army, under Prince Napoleon, but it was not engaged in subsequent battles. At Melignano on June 8, before crossing the Mincio, the Austrians, retreating slowly from Magenta, were overtaken and lost 1,474 men, to 851 lost by the allies, in a very severe combat prolonged until ended by night and a violent rain-storm. It was an unnecessary fight on the part of Austria.

On June 23 Austria recrossed the Mincio and was defeated on the twenty-fourth at Solferino, which ended the campaign, an armistice being signed August 8, and the treaty of Villa Franca in November. Solferino brought together the largest forces assembled in Europe since the battle of Prague. Austria had on the field 189,648 men and 752 guns. Her casualties were 21,737 or 11.5 per cent. The French had 118,019 men and 432 guns; the Italians 55,584 men and 90 guns; casualties 17,191, or 10 per cent. The Austrians and French were organized in corps, the Italians in divisions, which were found objectionable as not favoring concentration. The allies captured two colors, thirty guns, and 6,000 prisoners, but made no pursuit. The Austrians had four generals wounded; the French five, of whom two died; and the Italians two, of whom one died.

It is suggestive of both Chancellorsville and the Wilderness to read of the rumored approach during the battle of certain "mythical men from Mantua". During our Civil War rumor played a similar part on both of those occasions.

E. P. ALEXANDER.

A Historical Geography of the British Colonies. Volume VI. *Australasia.* By J. D. ROGERS. (Oxford: The Clarendon Press. 1907. Pp. viii, 308, iv, 132.)

OPINION undoubtedly differs as to what constitutes a historical geography; indeed the question has already (AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW,

VII., p. 385) been raised with reference to an earlier volume of the series to which this book belongs. Mr. Rogers has followed the plan laid down by Mr. Lucas, the originator of the series. Thus part one deals with history and part two with geography; and, though physical features are from time to time referred to in the first half of the book, it may be questioned how far the author has a thorough appreciation of the full significance of the relations of geography and history. The book is, however, a useful compendium of the history and geography of the vast region with which it deals. There are furthermore, a number of suggestive statements as to certain aspects of physiographical influence on social and political development. For example the unusual river system of which the Murray and the Darling are the main parts is shown to have played a large role in the expansion of English settlements; and the dominance of Melbourne by means of the five chief routes which radiate from it is well brought out. Yet before the reader has finished the first few chapters of the historical section he must turn to the geographical section to discover, if possible, information which might better have been given at the start or by way of commentary.

The use of metaphors is frequent and these endeavors to relieve the monotony of compact narrative and description will not always meet with the approval of the reader. In this volume the bibliographies are no longer to be found at the end of each chapter; but a full apparatus of foot-notes may on the whole better satisfy the student. The maps though numerous should have been clearer.

The introductory chapters summarize the history of discovery in the Pacific to the close of the eighteenth century, some features of native life, and the plans for a colony at Botany Bay. There never was, by the way, a convict settlement at Botany Bay (p. 50). As a region at first settled by state aid the early Australian colonies only emerged from a period of socialism when natural resources tempted the industry and adventure of free immigrants and of the second generation. The pioneers of this second period by their bolder wandering and scattering settlements made possible the third epoch. This was marked by voluntary immigration, public loans, discovery and development of richer resources, and competition; all was closely connected with expansion. In the case of New Zealand the free individual preceded organized colonization and the native population played a larger role than in Australia or Tasmania. As for the island world to the north, the adventurer, the missionary, and international rivalry chiefly with France, but in more recent periods with Germany also, have all gone to make the New Pacific south of the equator. These matters are all treated in the first part. The second part deals in succession with the geography of the Pacific Islands, New Guinea, New Zealand, and Australia. Here the wealth of detail and the limits of this notice must restrain even a summary. As a whole the very abundance of fact will increase the value of the book as an epitome.

ALFRED L. P. DENNIS.